The Planning Inspectorate Yr Arolygiaeth Gynllunio



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THE COMPANY SECRETARY AQUIND LIMITED OGN HOUSE HADRIAN WAY WALLSEND NE28 6HL



National Infrastructure Temple Quay House 2 The Square BRISTOL BS1 6PN

Customer Services: 0303 444 5000 e-mail: NIEnquiries@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Our Ref: EN020022

11 November 2020

EN020022-002843

Unique Reference: AQUI-AFP1184

Project Email Address: aquind@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

The Planning Act 2008 (as amended)

The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure)
Rules 2010

The Infrastructure Planning (Compulsory Acquisition) Regulations 2010

We are writing to inform you that the Examining Authority has made a Procedural Decision to accept the Applicant's proposed changes to the scheme.

The Examining Authority has also confirmed that several persons have been granted Interested Party status under s102 of the Planning Act 2008.

Copies of the letters containing further information relating to the above can be found here:

 Procedural Decision to accept the Applicant's change request (letter to the Applicant):
 infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/document/

- Procedural Decision to accept the Applicant's change request (letter to all Interested Parties): infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/document/ EN020022-002844
- Confirmation of s102 parties and request for further information: infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/document/ EN020022-002845

If these links do not open automatically, please cut and paste them into your browser. Alternatively, the letter has been published to the 'documents' tab on the project page of our website: infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/south-east/aquind-interconnector/?ipcsection=docs

Kind regards

AQUIND Interconnector Project Case Team

This communication does not constitute legal advice. Please view our Privacy Notice at the URL below, or contact our Customer Services on 0303 444 5000 to discuss with the Case Team before sending information to the Planning Inspectorate.

infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/help/privacy-and-cookie/



The Secretary Aquind Limited OGN House Hadrian Way Wallsend NE28 6HL

Date: 19 November 2020

62100616-CA-CON5-2394030

Dear Sir/Madam,

AQUIND Interconnector - Notice of a compulsory acquisition request in respect of additional land (Planning Inspectorate Reference: EN020022)

Section 123(4) of the Planning Act 2008 and Regulation 7 of the Infrastructure Planning (Compulsory Acquisition) Regulations 2010

BACKGROUND

- On 14 November 2019 AQUIND Limited ('Applicant') submitted an application to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy ('Secretary of State') (via the Planning Inspectorate) for a Development Consent Order ('DCO') in respect of AQUIND Interconnector ('Application'). The Application was accepted for examination on Thursday 12 December 2019 and the Examination commenced on Wednesday 9 September 2020. The Planning Inspectorate's reference number for the Application is EN020022.
- 1.2 Following submission of the Application, the Applicant has made minor amendments to the proposed Order limits. In particular, land has been removed from the proposed Order limits, the rights sought over some parcels of land have been amended and a small additional area of land is proposed to be added to the Order limits.
- 1.3 On 11 November 2020 the Examining Authority issued a procedural decision to accept these amendments, including to accept the addition of the small area of land to the Order limits pursuant to Regulation 6 of the Infrastructure Planning (Compulsory Acquisition) Regulations 2010 (the 'CA Regulations').
- 1.4 Further to the Examining Authority's procedural decision, we are rewriting to you to notify you in accordance with Regulation 7 of the CA Regulations, that the Applicant has made a request for an order granting development consent to authorise compulsory acquisition of land or of an interest in or right over land that was not identified in the book of reference submitted with the Application ("the CA Request").
- 1.5 You will have previously received a letter notifying you of these amendments to the Order limits dated 06 October 2020. We confirm that no further amendments have been made to the Order limits to those previously notified, and that this letter is being sent further to the procedural decision in relation to those amendments.



2. SUMMARY OF THE PROJECT

- 2.1 AQUIND Interconnector ('Project') is a new 2,000 MW subsea and underground High Voltage Direct Current ('HVDC') bi-directional electric power transmission link between the South Coast of England and Normandy in France. By linking the British and French electric power grids it will make energy markets more efficient, improve security of supply and enable greater flexibility as power grids evolve to adapt to different sources of renewable energy and changes in demand trends such as the development of electric vehicles. The Project will have the capacity to transmit up to 16,000,000 MWh of electricity per annum, which equates to approximately 5% and 3% of the total consumption of the UK and France respectively.
- 2.2 The Application seeks development consent for those elements of the Project located in the UK and the UK Marine Area ('Proposed Development'). The Proposed Development includes:
 - HVDC marine cables from the boundary of the UK exclusive economic zone to the UK at Eastney in Portsmouth;
 - jointing of the HVDC marine cables and HVDC onshore cables;
 - HVDC onshore cables from Eastney to Lovedean;
 - a Converter Station and associated electrical and telecommunications infrastructure at Lovedean;
 - High Voltage Alternating Current ('HVAC') onshore cables and associated infrastructure connecting the Converter Station to the Great Britain electrical transmission network, the National Grid, at Lovedean Substation; and
 - smaller diameter fibre optic cables to be installed together with the HVDC and HVAC cables and associated infrastructure.

3. DESCRIPTION AND MAP OF THE ADDITIONAL LAND

3.1 The additional land to be added to the Order limits and which is subject to the CA Request is a parcel of land towards the western edge of the football pitch at Baffins Milton Rovers FC, which has been assigned plot number 8-03a (the 'Additional Land'). The Additional Land is more particularly identified on the plan enclosed with this letter.

4. REASONS WHY THE ADDITIONAL LAND IS REQUIRED

- 4.1 The Additional Land is proposed to be included within the Order limits for the Proposed Development in connection with land to the west of the Additional Land being removed from the Order limits, so as to avoid the potential for trees in this location to be removed. The addition of the Additional Land is required to provide a sufficient area within the Order limits to install the onshore cables which form part of the Proposed Development.
- 4.2 The Additional Land is required to facilitate the delivery and operation of the Proposed Development to which the Application relates, and there is a compelling case in the public interest for the rights proposed to be acquired over the Additional Land given the international and national benefits that the Project will generate, in light of EU and UK energy policy and carbon and climate change commitments.
- 4.3 The need for the Project and its benefits are described in full in the Needs and Benefits Report (APP-115) and in the Needs and Benefits Report Addendum (REP1-136), which are available to view free of charge on the webpage relating to the Application on the Planning Inspectorate's website detailed below at paragraph 6.1.

5. **FUNDING**

5.1 The Proposed Development, and more broadly the Project, is to be funded through project finance secured against the operational profits (revenues) of the Project. Funding for the Project is expected to be subject to grant of the development consent order and the settlement of regulatory status of the Project.



6. COPIES OF THE ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS

- A copy of the CA Request (REP1-002), the supplement to the book of reference relating to the Additional Land (REP1-125), the map showing the Additional Land (REP1-002), the revised Land Plans for the Proposed Development (REP1-011a), the revised draft DCO (REP3-003) and other documentation relating to the CA Request ('Additional Documents') are available to view free of charge on the webpage relating to the Application on the Planning Inspectorate's website under the 'Documents' tab: https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/south-east/aquind-interconnector/?ipcsection=docs.
- The Additional Documents will be available to view on the website for at least the duration of the Examination, which is due to be completed by no later than 8 March 2021.
- 6.3 Electronic copies of the Additional Documents will be made available free of charge on a USB upon request to the Applicant. A paper copy is also available on request, subject to reasonable copying charges. Please email aquindconsultation@becg.com or phone 01962 893 869 if you would like to request copies of the Additional Documents.

7. COMMENTING ON THE CA REQUEST

- Any representations (giving notice of any interest in, or objection to the CA Request) must be made on the Planning Inspectorate's Registration and Relevant Representation Form, which is available through the project page of the Planning Inspectorate's website at: https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/south-east/aquind-interconnector/.
- 7.2 If you require guidance on, or other methods of, obtaining and completing the Planning Inspectorate's Registration and Relevant Representation Form, please telephone the Planning Inspectorate on 0303 444 5000 or e-mail aquind@planninginspectorate.gov.uk. The Planning Inspectorate's Advice Note 8.2: How to register to participate in an Examination (December 2016) provides further guidance on how to register and make a relevant representation. It is available online at:

 https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/Advice-note-8-2v3.pdf
- In preparing this letter the Applicant has taken into account the changes made by the Infrastructure Planning (Publication and Notification of Applications etc.) (Coronavirus) (Amendment) Regulations 2020. If you wish to respond but do not have access to the internet and are unable or unwilling to leave your property given the current Government restrictions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic you are invited to contact the Applicant or the Planning Inspectorate by telephone so that appropriate arrangements can be made for completing the Planning Inspectorate's Registration and Relevant Representation Form.
- 7.4 The Applicant can be contacted at:

Address: FREEPOST AQUIND CONSULTATION

Email: aquindconsultation@becg.com

Website: http://aquindconsultation.co.uk/

Telephone: 01962 893 869

7.5 Please note that any representations must be received by the Planning Inspectorate by 23:59 on 24th December 2020. All representations will be made public by the Planning Inspectorate on the project page of the Planning Inspectorate's website at: https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/south-east/aquind-interconnector.



Yours sincerely,



Richard Glasspool (BA, FCA) Director

AQUIND Interconnector

Encs.

Map showing the location of the Additional Land

